



## The Global Voice of the Tech Sector

March 22, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leaders McConnell and Schumer, Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi:

On behalf of the 63 members of the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), I write to express our strong support for the *Clarifying Lawful Overseas Use of Data (CLOUD) Act* as included in the *Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2018*. Given the importance of the bipartisan CLOUD Act to the high-tech community, we will consider scoring votes in support of final passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 in our 115th Congressional Voting Guide.

The *Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA)* governing law enforcement access to data, written over 30 years ago, fails to reflect the global, interconnected nature of today's electronic and cloud-based communications that are foundational to our daily communications and business operations. Furthermore, outmoded and often conflicting international data access laws frustrate the legitimate interests of law enforcement agencies to conduct cross-border criminal investigations and instead create a complex legal landscape that undermines citizens' trust in technology products and services.

ITI applauds the inclusion of the *CLOUD Act* in the *Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2018* as a critical first step in reforming these outdated laws regarding law enforcement access to data and modernizing our legal framework for the realities of the digital age. By incentivizing bilateral agreements between the U.S. government and its foreign counterparts to reconcile conflicts of law around cross-border data access, this legislation will facilitate greater cooperation and dialogue among participating countries. It will also help to harmonize international privacy norms and balance the vested interests of governments, communications service providers, and citizens alike.

On behalf of ITI's member companies, we urge members of the House and Senate to support the final passage of *CLOUD Act* as included in the *Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2018*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Garfield", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dean Garfield  
President & CEO

cc: Members of the House of Representatives and Senate